TRUMP ACQUITTED

— NOT GUILTY—
President faced two charges: Abuse of power, obstruction of Congress

— PARTISAN VOTING—
Final tallies were almost exclusively along party lines

YURI GRIPAS/TNS

President Donald Trump gives a thumbs-up Wednesday outside the Oval Office. He tweeted that he would speak today about "our Country's VICTORY on the Impeachment Hoax."

The Virginian-Pilot

THURSDAY | 2.6.20 | PILOTONLINE.COM | *Our 155th year* | $1.50 in Hampton Roads; $2 in outlying areas

By Lisa Mascaro and Mary Clare Jalonic
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump won impeachment acquittal Wednesday in the U.S. Senate, bringing to a close only the third presidential trial in American history with votes that split the country, tested civic norms and fed the tumultuous 2020 race for the White House.

With Chief Justice John Roberts presiding, senators sworn to do "impartial justice" stood at their desks to state their votes for the roll call — "guilty" or "not guilty" — in a swift tally almost exclusively along party lines. Visitors, including the president's allies, watched from the crowded gallery. Roberts read the declaration that Trump "be, and is hereby, acquitted of the charges."

GOP DISSENT
Utah Sen. Mitt Romney broke with fellow Republicans, voting to convict Trump on the first charge.

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Head of troubled foster care program is leaving

Norfolk insists Hawks' decision has nothing to do with external review

By Tim Eberly
Staff writer

NORFOLK — The Norfolk department head who's in charge of the city's embattled foster care program is departing amid an external review of the program.

Hawks

Stephen Hawks, director of the Department of Human Services, is leaving the position at the end of February. The move comes as a Virginian-Pilot investigative series has exposed a years-long pattern of mismanagement, retribution and poor performance in the foster care program.

Hawks did not respond to a request for an interview Wednesday.

City spokeswoman Lori Crouch said in an email Wednesday that Hawks "made the decision 7 months ago to retire at the end of

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STEVE EARLEY/STAFF

The World Mission Society Church of God in Newport News. The church's national website says the religion has 2.7 million registered members in 175 countries and describes itself as "Christian non-denominational."

Police urge caution about evangelists, not paranoia

Authorities: No evidence that 'God the Mother' group means harm

By Joanne Kimberlin
Staff writer

Despite the ALL CAPS warnings on social media, police say there's no evidence that a group of evangelists who've been hitting the streets of Hampton Roads are trying to kidnap people for sex trafficking.

But in the wake of last week's news about leaders of a Filipino megachurch, Kingdom of Jesus Christ, being arrested on human trafficking charges, it's easy to be confused — and spooked.

These evangelists are from a different religion: the World Mission Society Church of God, a faith from Korea that now has thousands of locations, including one in Virginia, a 3-year-old church on Menchville Road in Newport News.

And the rumors are nothing new. Accusations of sex trafficking have dogged the World Mission Society for several years, rising like smoke signals from Oregon to Florida to New York.

Local suspicions — and calls to police — were ignited in Decem-

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HOLLYWOOD LOSES A LEGEND

Kirk Douglas, father of Oscar winner Michael Douglas and star of "Spartacus" and dozens of other films, died Wednesday. He was 103.

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The 757 is getting some company ...

948

... will be Hampton Roads' new area code, officials say

By Saleen Martin
Staff writer

Some Hampton Roads residents will soon have phone numbers beginning with 948 rather than 757, according to a news release from the State Corporation Commission.

The North American Numbering Plan Administrator recently assigned a new area code to the Hampton Roads area to "relieve the future exhaustion of phone numbers in Virginia's 757 area code," the release said.

"All new customers that come into the area will receive (the 948) area code," said Allan Sharrett, a spokesman for the commission.

Currently, the 757 area code stretches from Williamsburg, Franklin and Suffolk in the west to Virginia Beach and the Eastern Shore in the east.

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National signing day: Find out who's going where

SPORTS

Rainy, warmer
High: 71
Low: 55

Details on the back page of Sports

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